(c) how the dead bodies were disposed off?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Media reports appeared on 13.12.2004 that three iron scrap thieves were buried to death in Sidhi Bank area of Durgapur Steel Plant.

(b) After thorough search of the area, no dead body was found and no clue of such incident came to notice. Moreover, no complaint about missing of these persons has been received from any quarter. However, following the media reports, local police has lodged an FIR and is investigating into the matter.

(c) and (d) Not Applicable.

Revamping of Civil Defence set up

3000. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are in the process of revamping the existing Civil Defence set-up into disaster management taskforce in the wake of Tsunami calamity;

(b) if so, how soon the new task force is expected to be operationalised;

(c) whether Government would also consider declaring Civil Defence proclamation to be effective during natural calamities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. It is not proposed to revamp the existing Civil Defence set-up into disaster management taskforce in the wake of Tsunami calamity. However eight battalions of Central Para Military Forces comprising of 144 Specialist Response Teams have been earmarked to be trained, equipped and regrouped as National Disaster Response Force under Director General Civil Defence to deal with natural calamities. Training and equipping of the Specialist Response Teams for operationalisation of the National Disaster Response Force has already commenced.

(c) No, Sir.